

Patent Claims

1. A method for the quality evaluation of electronically stored, in particular medical knowledge data (4), having the following steps:

- the knowledge data (4) are stored in a database (12),
- quality data (20) correlated with the knowledge data are stored in the database (12),
- when a user (28) accesses the knowledge data (4), the quality data (20) are automatically provided to the user (28).

2. The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein

- the user (28) stores quality data (20) in the database (12) during or after access to the knowledge data (4).

3. The method as claimed in claim 1 or 2, wherein

- the user (28) applies the knowledge data (4),
- quality data (20) correlated with the results of the application are stored in the database (12).

4. The method as claimed in one of the preceding claims, wherein

- preselected quality criteria (59, 66) correlated with the knowledge data (4) are stored in the database (12).

5. The method as claimed in one of the preceding claims, wherein

- an identification of the user (28) is assigned to the quality data (20) and stored in the database (12).

6. The method as claimed in one of claims 2 to 5, wherein

- the user (28) determines quality data (20) with a time delay after application of the knowledge data (4),

- the user (28) is automatically requested to store the quality data (20) in the database (12) at predetermined times.

7. The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein

- result data from the application of knowledge data (20) are stored in a result database (64),
- quality data (20) correlated with the application of the knowledge data (20) are automatically generated and stored in the database (12).

8. The method as claimed in claim 7, wherein

- the result database (64) is an electronic patient database or an electronic hospital information system,
- patient outcome data are stored as result data in the result database.

9. The method as claimed in claim 7 or 8, wherein

- quality data (20) are determined from the result database (64) according to preselected quality criteria,
- the quality data (20) are stored in the database (12).

10. The method as claimed in one of claims 7 to 9, wherein

- quality data (20) are determined from the result database (64) according to the preselected quality criteria with a time delay,
- an access path to the result database (64) is assigned to the quality criterion.

11. The method as claimed in claim 10, wherein

- a result database (64) denoted by the access path is automatically checked at predetermined times for the presence of the result data assigned to the quality criteria,

- when the result data are present, quality data are generated from them according to the quality criteria and stored in the database (12).

12. The method as claimed in one of the preceding claims, wherein

- a quality measure (60, 68) is determined as quality data (20),
- a determination instruction for the quality measure (60, 68) is stored in the database (12).

13. The method as claimed in claim 12, wherein

- the determination instruction is a formula or an expert rule.

14. The method as claimed in one of the preceding claims, wherein

- different users (28) use the same knowledge data (20) and quality data (20) assigned to the users (28) are determined therefrom,
- a ranking of the success rate of the users (28) is calculated from the quality data (20).

15. The method as claimed in one of the preceding claims, wherein

- comparable knowledge data (4) are used and quality data (20) assigned to the knowledge data (4) are determined therefrom,
- a ranking of the quality of the knowledge data (4) is calculated from the quality data (20).

16. The method as claimed in one of the preceding claims, wherein

- knowledge data (4) are released for use by the user (28) only after the user (28) has assigned their identification to the knowledge data (4) or an access path for result data from the use of the knowledge data (4).

17. The method as claimed in one of the preceding claims, wherein

- knowledge data (4) are released for use by the user (28) only after the user (28) has paid a fee,
- the user (28) receives a reimbursement of the fee after storing the quality data (20).

18. The method as claimed in one of the preceding claims, wherein

- the use of the knowledge data (4) is chargeable to the user (28),
- the quality data (20), but not the assigned knowledge data (4), can be seen freely by the user (28).

19. The method as claimed in one of the preceding claims, wherein

- the date of the creation of the quality data (20) is stored in the database (12) together with the quality data (20).

20. The method as claimed in one of the preceding claims, wherein

- medical treatment recommendations or advice are stored as knowledge data (4).

21. The method as claimed in one of the preceding claims, wherein

- medical guidelines are stored as knowledge data (4).